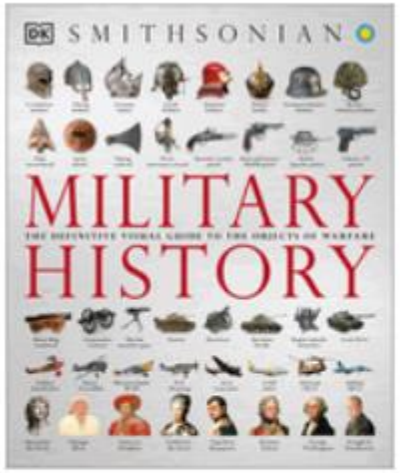
Military Uniforms 1760-1865

History of Military Uniforms

There are numerous books available describing Military Uniforms.

https://www.alibris.com/search/books/subject/History-Military-Uniforms?utm_source=Google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=NMPi_Generic&&&&&ds_rl=1259834&ds_rl=1259834&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI5uaL0Zz__QIVJAJMCh1Onw11EAAYAyAAEgLxBvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds



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DK
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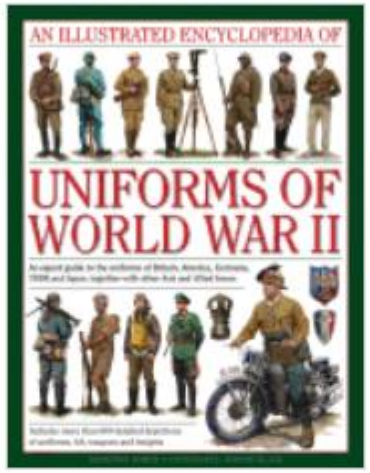

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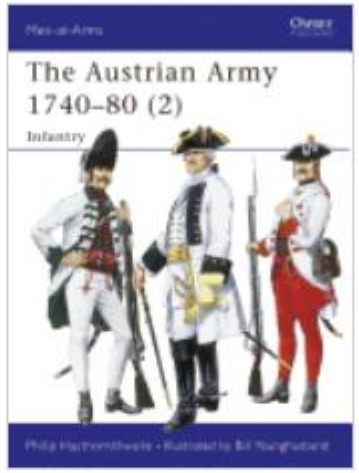

The Austrian Army 1740-80 (2)...
Philip Haythornthwaite, Bill Younghusband (Illustrator)
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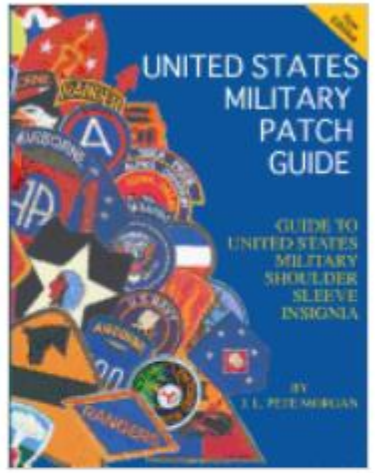

United States Military Patch...
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Early Uniforms (Revolutionary Period)

- Early uniforms followed typical British uniforms in the 18th Century.
- Woolen coat with tight fitting sleeves.
- Tight fitting smallclothes (i.e. breeches & waistcoat)
  - Spring: linen smallclothes
  - Fall: woolen smallclothes.
- Regulations published in 1779 established the Army uniform as blue with colored facings based on region: white for New England, red for the Mid-Atlantic, and blue for the South. Musicians wore uniform coats in reverse colors. In 1782, blue coats faced with red became standard for everyone except generals and staff officers.[1]

1: Source: https://www.military.com/army/uniforms.html

Examples: Revolutionary War

Source: https://www.etsy.com

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1393187260/continental-army-coat-revolutionary-war?ga_order=most_relevant&ga_search_type=all&ga_view_type=gallery&ga_search_query=revolutionary+war+uniform&ref=sr_gallery-1-8&organic_search_click=1

Accoutrements

Pictured above are accoutrements of an obsolete British pattern as used by American forces in the Revolutionary War; to the right is an American pattern 1777 cartridge box produced in Massachusetts for the Continental Army. This was one of the first attempts at standardization of military equipment.

Source: https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey_uwa.pdf

Continental Navy Uniforms

Each man is labeled, in black text, with his title at the base of the photo above the title; from left to right, "Lieutenant / 1776," "Captain / 1776," "Midshipman / 1777," Captain / 1777, " and "Seaman."

The lieutenant and leftmost captain wear blue uniforms faced in red, with red vests, gold buttons, white cravats and black buckled shoes. The lieutenant wears his hat while the captain holds his in his left hand to greet the second captain. The midshipman and captain both have navy blue uniforms with white vests, gold buttons, white cravats and black buckled shoes; however, the captain's coat is white faced and he wears gold accented epaulets, and his hat is in his left hand to greet the other captain while the midshipman wears his.

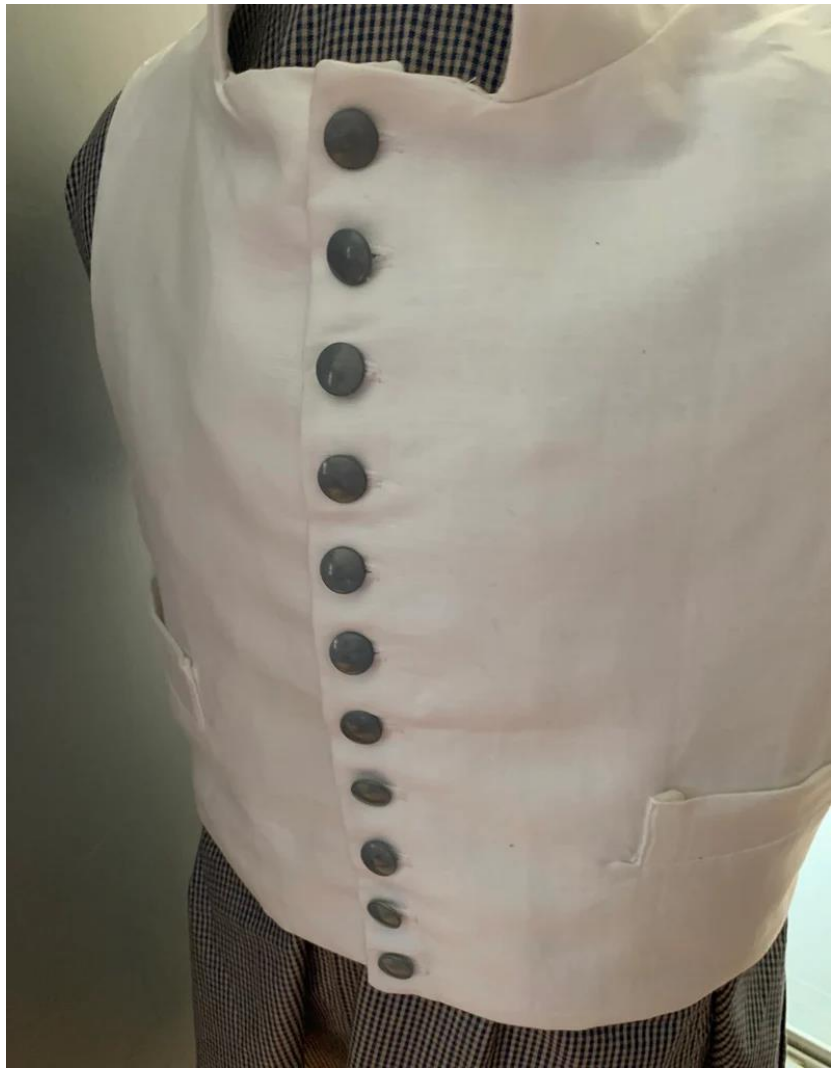
Source: https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/1A4948EA-A55D-43A5-A353-553554159829

War of 1812

The year 1812 was a very confusing one in regard to uniforms. Because of a shortage of blue cloth, coatees made of drab, black, brown or gray cloth were issued to various Regular Army infantry regiments during the winter of 1812-13. These were made in the same manner as the regulation coatee with red cuffs and collar -- and, in most cases, with the white binding. (The 25th through 28th Infantry Regiments received blue coatees with red cuffs and collar, but with white binding lace on the collar only.) In February 1813, the white binding was dropped altogether.

Source: https://www.military.com/army/uniforms.html

Examples: 1812 Wool Vest front and back



Source: etsy - https://www.etsy.com/listing/641519982/mens-1812-vest?ga_order=most_relevant&ga_search_type=all&ga_view_type=gallery&ga_search_query=%26quot%3BWar+of+1812%26quot%3B+clothing&ref=sr_gallery-1-5&organic_search_click=1

Examples: War of 1812

Reconstruction of a summer roundabout with 9-button front.

1810 Yeoman Crown Shako similar to that worn by the 5th Maryland Regiment at the Battle of North Point, MD in September 1814.

Reproduction of a uniform coatee made in accordance with the Regulations of February 1812.

Source: https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey_uwa.pdf

War of 1812 (1813 new regulations)

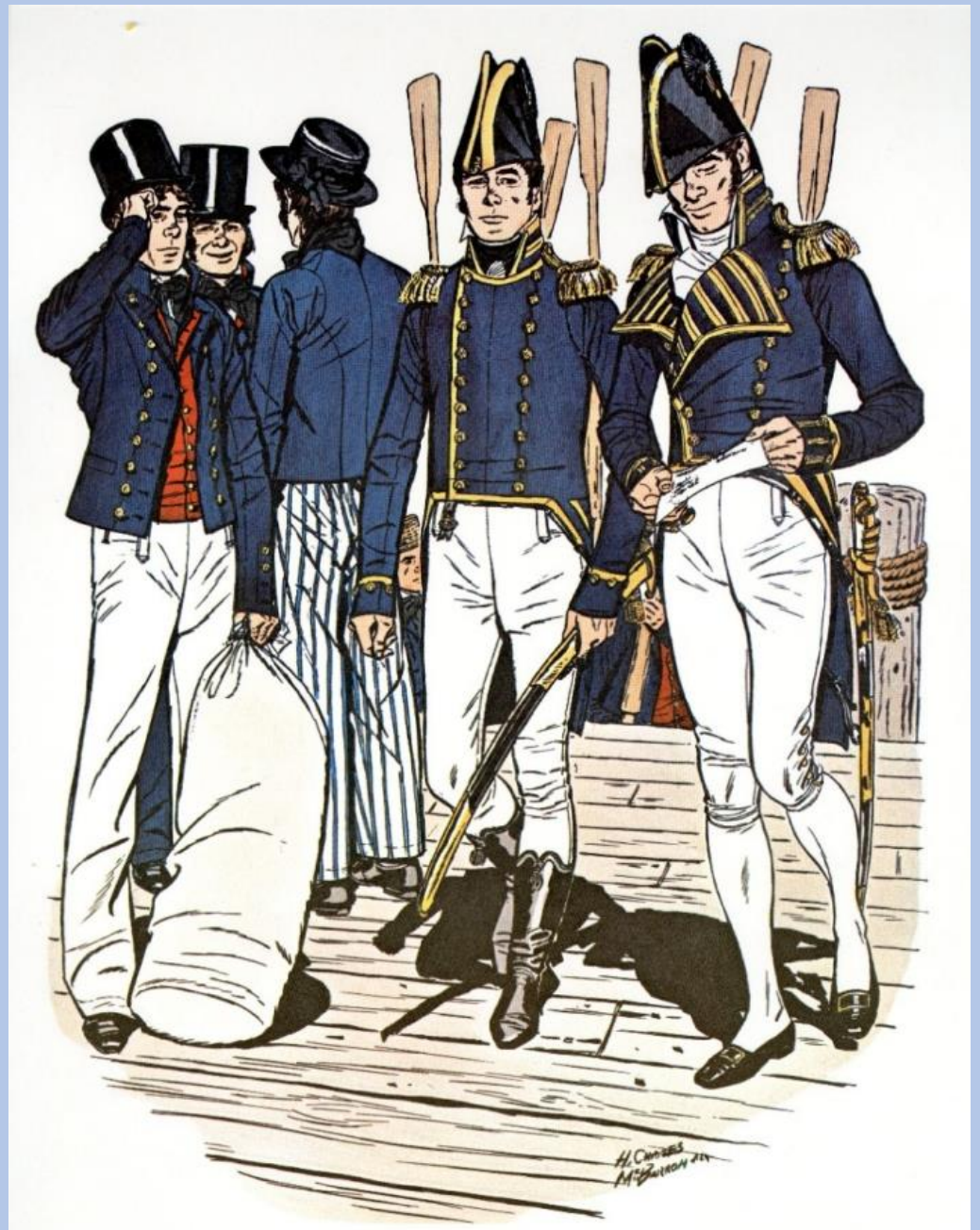
To the left is a reproduction coatee made in accordance with the regulations of May 1813. The cap pictured above is a copy of the Belgic-type cap adopted in 1813, but with the second pattern cap plate introduced in 1814. Both British and American troops referred to this type of cap as a "tombstone" shako, because of the slight extension of the top front.

Source: https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey_uwa.pdf

Navy Uniforms 1812-1815

https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/uniforms-and-personal-equipment/uniforms-1812-1815.html

Officers of the United States Navy during the War of 1812 were governed by two distinct uniform instructions, those of 1802 and a new order issued in 1813.



UNITED STATES NAVAL OFFICERS AND SEAMEN, DRESS UNIFORMS, 1812–1815

Army Mid-19th Century 1833-1850

https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey_uwa.pdf Page 11

The major changes to the uniform included the replacing of the “Bell Crown” Shako with a “Stovepipe” Shako, and the introduced of stripes for officers and non-commissioned officers on sky-blue trousers.

Artillery Sergeant 1836

New pattern buttons introduced in 1833, for Dragoons on the left, and infantry on the right.

Coatee of an infantry private Circa 1840

Non-commissioned officer rank was determined by a combination of button arrangement, lace on the cuffs, and by a red worsted wool sash as seen in the illustration of the artillery sergeant see at the left.

Army 1833-1850

https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey_uwa.pdf Page 12

Also in 1833, a black leather forage cap replaced the “Pinwheel” cap of 1825 and a white linen roundabout was authorized for wear in the summer in southern climates. These garments typified the uniform of the soldier in the Seminole War of 1836-1843.

Black Leather Pattern 1833 Folding Forage Cap

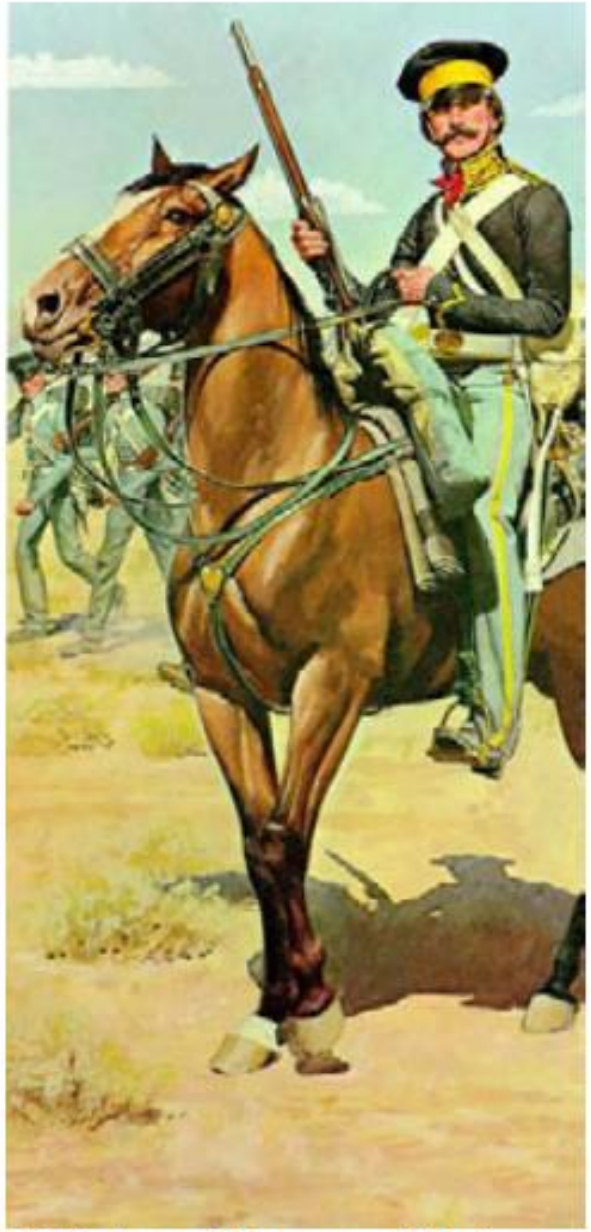
Pattern 1833 Summer Roundabout

Pattern 1839 Forage Cap

Pattern 1833 Roundabout

Introduction of Chevrons for enlisted

The uniform regulations of 1847 authorized new chevrons for non-commissioned officers to be worn on both sleeves above the elbow, point upward. The chevrons were made of worsted wool tape in yellow for mounted troops and white for foot troops.



Infantry and Dragoons, Mexico, 1847

Chevrons.

As a badge of distinction when in *fatigue dress*, non-commissioned officers are permitted to wear upon the sleeves of their undress jackets, above the elbow, chevrons of lace corresponding to their uniform, after the following description:

For a Sergeant-Major, *three bars, and an arc.*

For a Quartermaster-Sergeant, *three bars, and a tie.*

For a First-Sergeant, *three bars, and a lozenge.*

For a Sergeant, *three bars.*

For a Corporal, *two bars.*

Non-commissioned officers and privates, as well as musicians, who shall have served faithfully for the term of five years, shall be permitted to wear a chevron on the sleeves of their *uniform* coats, above the elbow, points up; and an additional chevron on each arm for every additional five years of faithful service. And those who have served in war, shall have a red stripe on each side of the chevron.

The paragraph and illustrations from the 1847 regulations describing the new non-commissioned officer chevrons.

https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey_uwa.pdf Page 13

Accoutrements

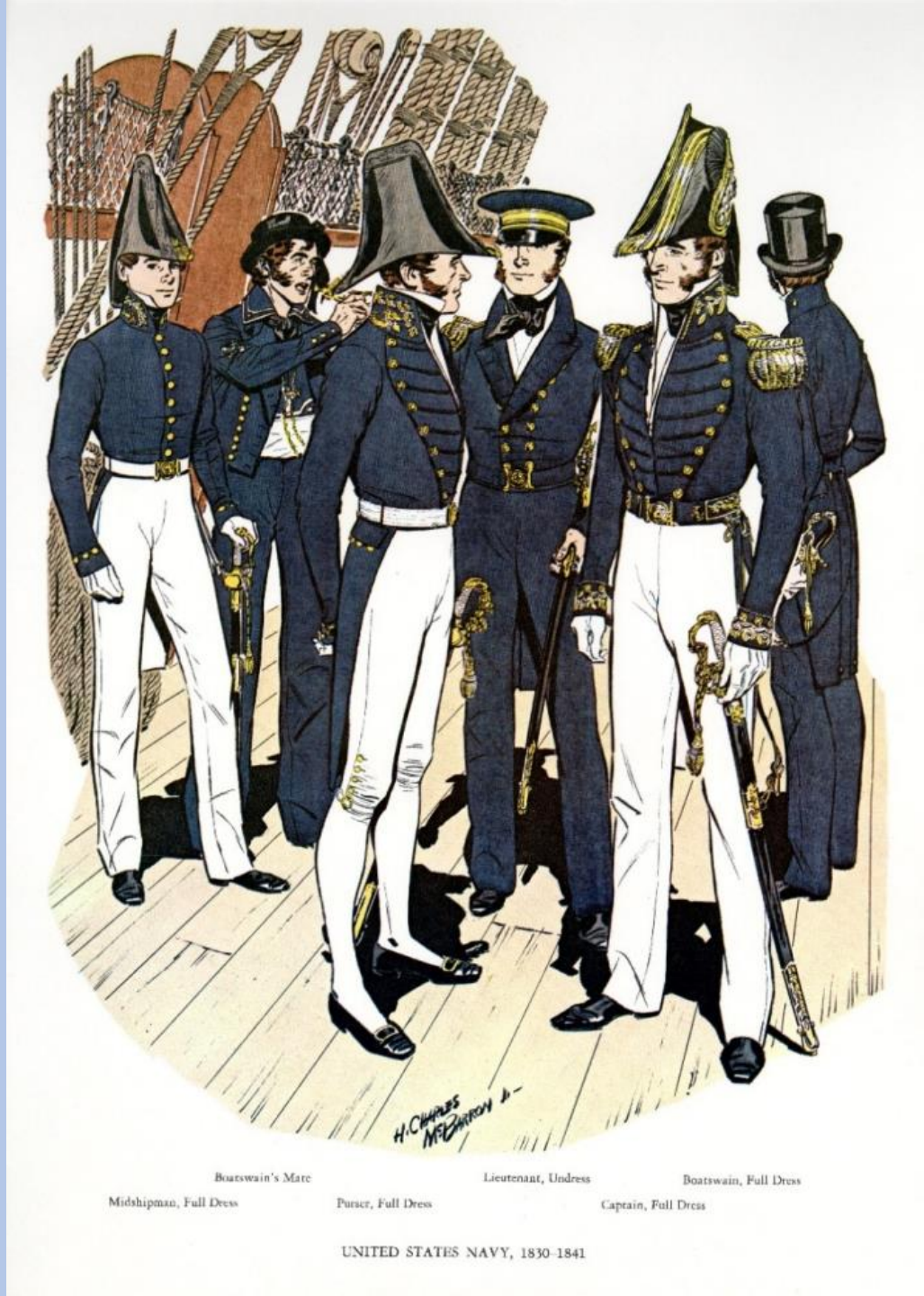
https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey_uwa.pdf
Page 17

Infantry accoutrements of the type used in the Mexican War with a detail of the Pattern 1839 Infantry belt Plate.

Navy 1830-1841

https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/uniforms-and-personal-equipment/uniforms-1830-1841.html

The current practice of prescribing one uniform for all officers of the United States Navy with a standard system of rank insignia and the use of devices to show the specialties of the staff officers was introduced in 1830 by a uniform order of 1 May.



Navy 1841

https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/uniforms-and-personal-equipment/uniforms-1841.html

The uniform regulations of 19 February 1841 were the first to include a section on the dress of enlisted personnel.

Under the 1841 order white webbing sword belts were worn in full dress and black leather belts in undress. It is to be noted that the swords were supported by a frog and not by slings as they had been prior to 1841 and after the next order of 1852.

Navy 1852 – Full Standardization of Uniforms

https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/uniforms-and-personal-equipment/uniforms-1852.html

A most important period in the development of the uniform of the United States Navy was instituted in 1852 when a new regulation was issued on March the 8th. This order, with modifications prescribed the dress of the Federal Navy during the Civil War. The present system of using distinctive corps devices to identify officers of the Line and Staff, although begun in a small way in 1830, was further developed. One innovation was the employment of gold lace on the sleeves to indicate an officer's rank, the current practice in blue uniforms. The two previous instructions had employed a few drawings to show details, but the 1852 order was the first to give pictorial information on insignia, devices, hats and to include illustrations of officers in the various types of dress. It was from 1852 that the "uniform" uniform really developed.

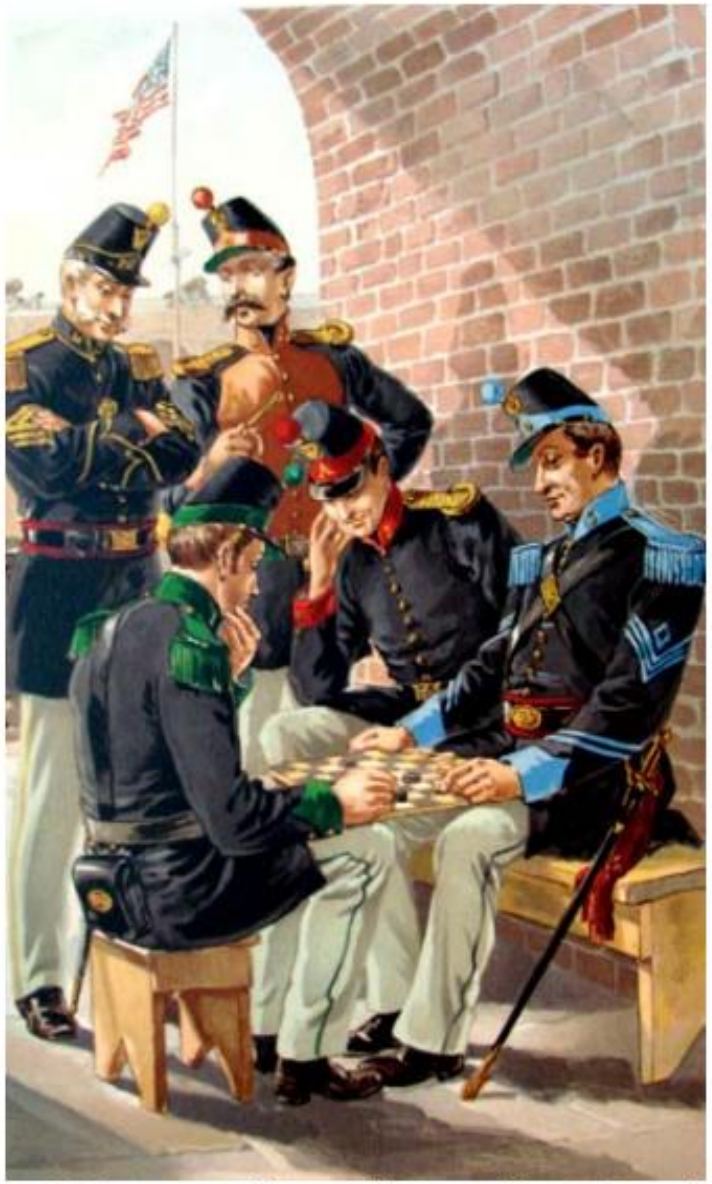
Navy Officer and Mid-Shipmen Uniforms

US Army – 1851 to 1872

https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey_uwa.pdf Page 19

As it says in the link above, the design changes to the Army's uniforms was short-lived.

The new regulations introduce the frock coat as the service uniform for all soldiers, thus eliminating the coatee. A system of branch colors was also introduced: Prussian blue for Infantry, scarlet for Artillery, orange for Dragoons, green for Mounted Rifles, and black for Staff.



The 1851 Army uniform as illustrated by O.H. Ogden for the Quartermaster General, showing the frock coat with branch colored facings and the Albert Cap.

The 1851 bright brass general service button

The Albert cap.

Reproduction Coat of a Dragoon private circa 1853

Regulation Change in 1858 - 1860

https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey_uwa.pdf Page 20

The regulations of 1858 and 1860 establish the uniform that defined the Union soldier in the American Civil War. The Army Hat in black felt with appropriate branch insignia; the frock coat with branch piping for foot troops, uniform jackets with branch colored lace for mounted troops, and sky-blue trousers

Infantry Sergeant

Cavalry Corporal

In addition, a four-button, blue wool sack coat and a forage cap (sometimes referred to as a “kepi”) were authorized for fatigue and field wear.

U.S. issue Forage cap and Sack Coat, 1862

https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey_uwa.pdf Page 21

See Page 21 (link above) for the Corp Badges that were authorized 1865.

In 1863 Corps Badges were introduced for wear on the cap or on the left breast of the uniform coat. Primarily intended as a means of identifying stragglers and deserters, the badges soon became a source of pride for the individual soldier.

9th Corps Badge worn on the Cap of Sergeant Amos Shumway, 7th Rhode Island Volunteer Infantry.

The Model 1858 Army Hat with insignia for Company B, 5th Infantry Regiment

A forage cap with insignia for infantry, in this case the 7th Massachusetts Volunteers. Army regulations authorized the wearing of only the company letter on the front of the cap.

Civil War – Variations to Uniforms

US regulations, Confederate regulations, state regulations, substitute standard clothing, state purchase garments, private purchase garments, and home made garments - the variety of uniforms worn by soldiers; both North and South during the Civil War boggle the mind.

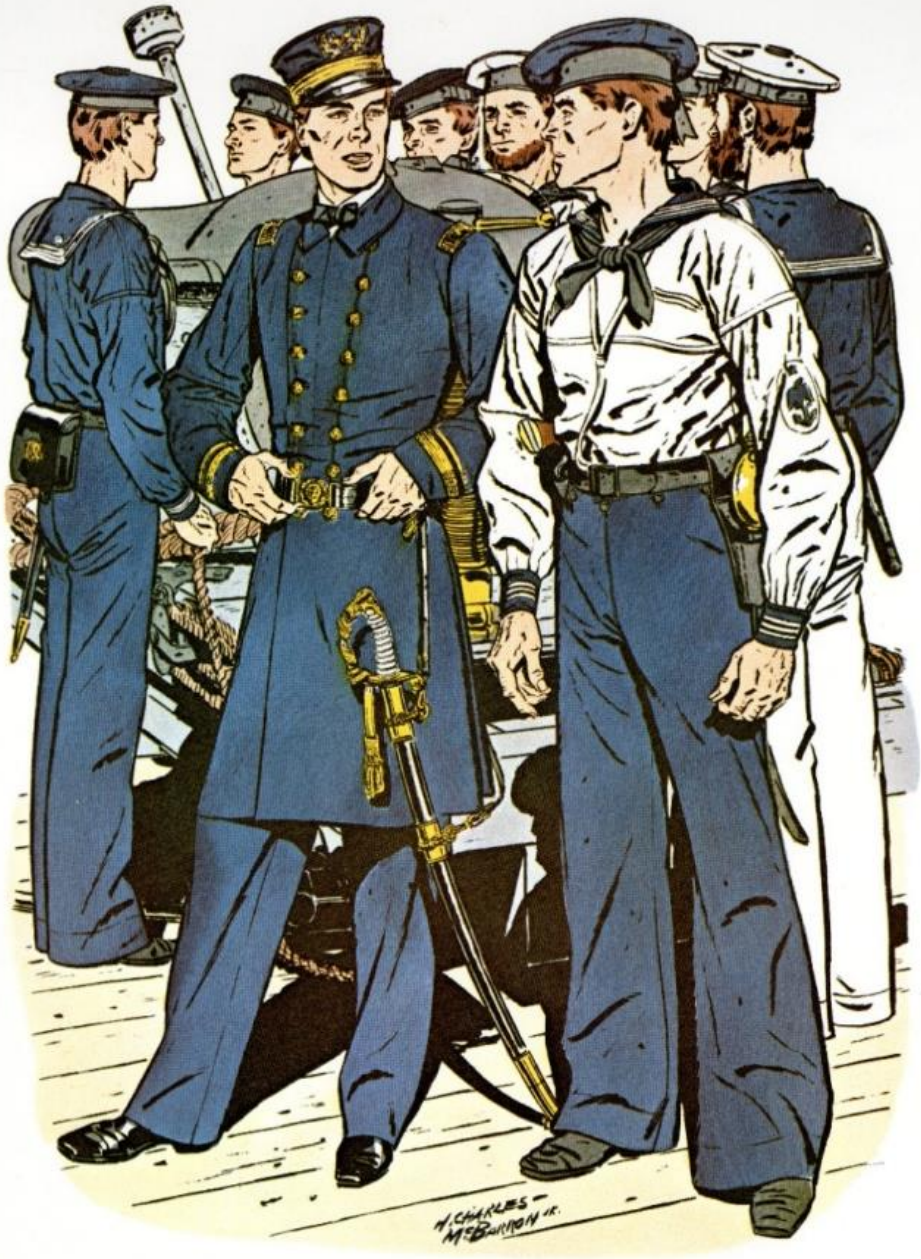
https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey_uwa.pdf Page 22

Navy Uniforms 1862-1863

A Uniform Change issued by Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles on 31 July 1862, directed that the full dress coat be omitted from an officer's wardrobe, and that the undress frock coat of 1852 be used for full, undress, and service dress.

An Act of Congress of 16 July 1862, "To establish and equalize the Grades of Line Officers of the United States Navy" created a new rank structure for the ever growing Federal Navy, which was made up of ships of all sizes and types, from new ironclads to converted merchant ships and ferry boats.

https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/uniforms-and-personal-equipment/uniforms-1862-1863.html



U.S. NAVY, SERVICE DRESS, 1862-1863

Navy Ranks Standardized

The rank of rear admiral was finally authorized, and the previous title of “flag officer” was changed to “commodore”. The rank of lieutenant-commander was set between that of commander and lieutenant, and a new junior rank of ensign was created. To identify the officers of this expanded list, it was of course necessary to modify the existing instructions.

The revised rank structure made a change in line insignia necessary. It is to be noted that the epaulet and shoulder strap insignia designs of 1852 were modified and extended by the official 1862 change. The cap devices, basically those of 1852, were carried forward to cover the new rank pattern. The cap device was to be worn above a band of gold lace for all officers except Professors of Mathematics and secretaries, who had no distinctive device. These two classes of officers wore the wreath of oak and olive leaves only, above a blue cap band. No head cover was prescribed for chaplains although they had been directed to wear a blue uniform, single-breasted with a row of nine buttons, and plain cuffs. In practice, chaplains wore the blue cap without any decoration.

https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/uniforms-and-personal-equipment/uniforms-1862-1863.html

Navy - 1864

The Regulations for the Uniform of the Navy of the United States, approved by Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles on 28 January 1864, finally brought all the changes to the 1852 instruction up to date. The instruction of 1862 was but a modification of the 1852 order, not a new regulation.

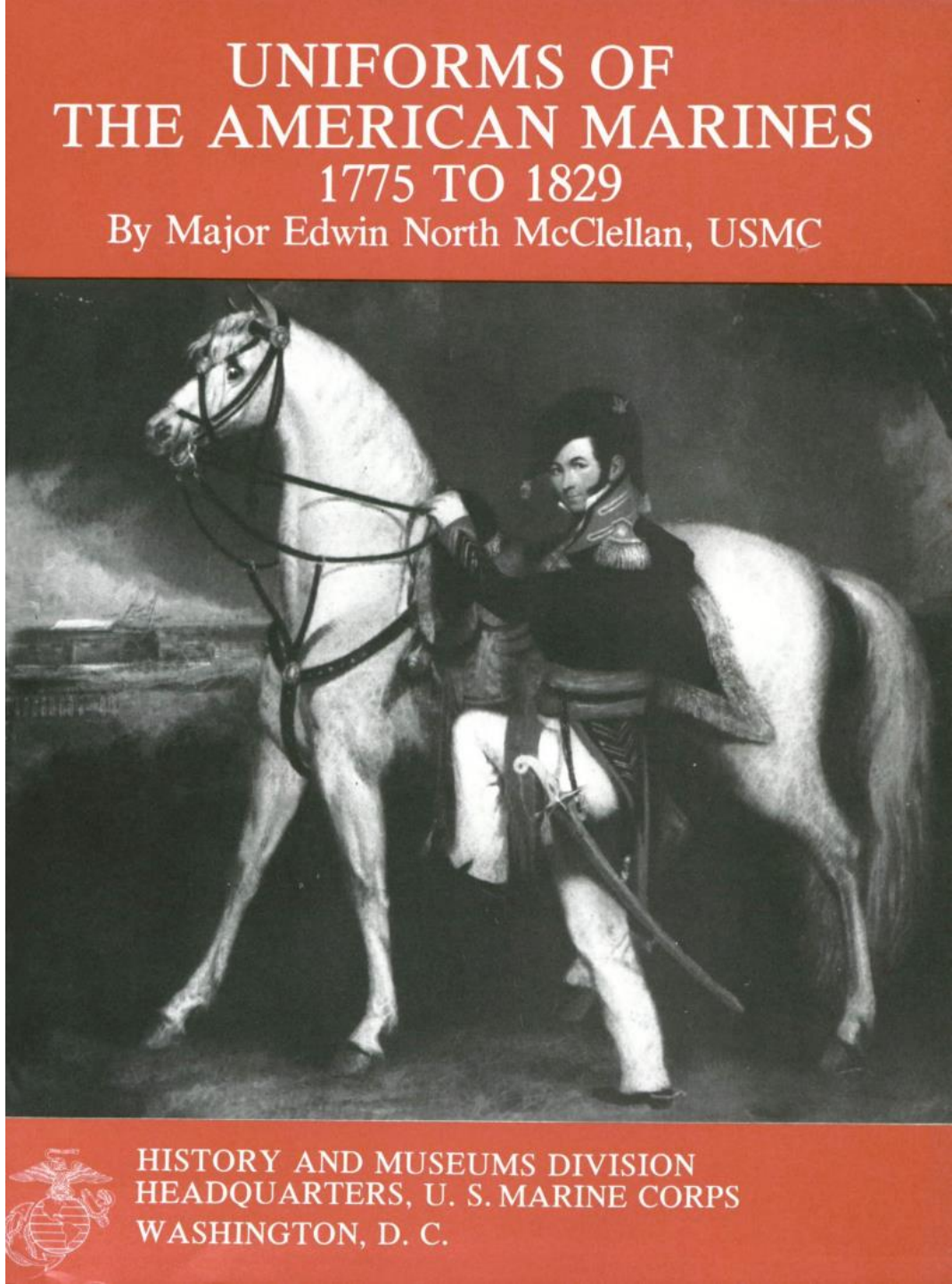
Another reason for the issuance of a new uniform order was the granting of relative rank to certain commissioned civil officers, who previously had no form of rank, and the modification of the relative rank of medical officers, paymasters (pursers until 1860) and engineers.

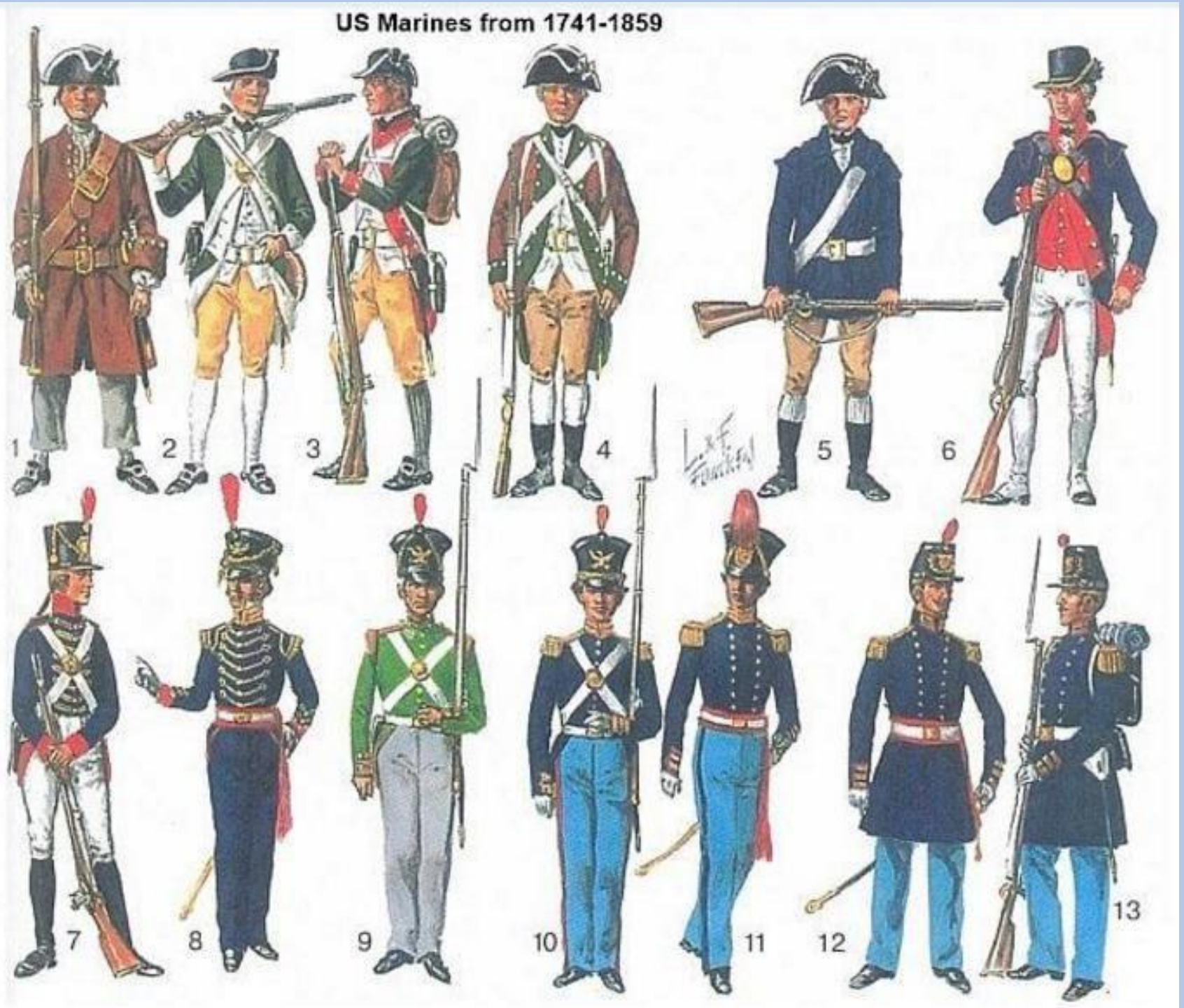
https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/uniforms-and-personal-equipment/uniforms-1864.html

US Marines Corp

A historical looks at the USMC from 1775-1829

https://www.marines.mil/Portals/1/Publications/Uniforms%20of%20the%20American%20Marines%201775%20to%201829%20PCN%2019000411100_1.pdf




US Marines from 1741-1859
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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uniforms_of_the_United_States_Marine_Corps